

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its South San Francisco District.	Application 03-10-017 (Filed October 1, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Stockton District.	Application 03-10-018 (Filed October 1, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Mid-Peninsula District.	Application 03-10-019 (Filed October 1, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Salinas District.	Application 03-10-020 (Filed October 1, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Bakersfield District.	Application 03-10-021 (Filed October 1, 2003)
Application of California Water Service Company (U 60 W) for an Order Authorizing it to Increase Rates for Water Service in its Salinas District (excluding the service areas of the County Meadows Mutual Water System and the Indian Springs Mutual Water System).	Application 03-10-031 (Filed October 1, 2003)

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE'S RULING
FOLLOWING PUBLIC PARTICIPATION HEARINGS**

The Administrative Law Judge assigned to this proceeding conducted two Public Participation Hearings (PPHs) in Bakersfield on March 11, 2004, with the assistance of California Water Service Company representatives and Ting-Pong Yuen, the Office of Ratepayer Advocates' representative. Between the two hearings, and pursuant to the consent of ORA's attorney, the Administrative Law Judge and Yuen accompanied two company personnel, Tim Treloar and Gary Witcher, on a one-hour tour of the new water treatment facility.

Based on the PPHs' proceedings, **IT IS RULED** that:

1. Within 30 days of this ruling, the company shall provide a written report to Richard Saylor, with a copy to the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) and Office of Ratepayer Advocates (ORA), discussing the water flushing issue identified by Saylor.
2. Within 30 days of this ruling, the company shall extend an offer to meet with Francisco Garcia concerning the advantages, disadvantages, and method of transferring from flat-rate to metered-rate service. The offer to meet will be extended in writing and in Spanish. The company shall also make a diligent effort to contact Garcia, in Spanish, by telephone. A letter of completion shall be sent to the ALJ and ORA.
3. Within 30 days of this ruling, the company shall file and serve in the proceeding an explanation of its existing policies for notifying, explaining, and offering to ratepayers the possibility of transferring from fixed-rate to metered-rate service.

4. The company and ORA shall be prepared to present at trial rate design alternatives (if any), and the advantages and disadvantages of those alternatives, for addressing the concerns expressed at the Public Participation Hearings about the impact of the existing rate design on low- and fixed-income ratepayers, seniors, and persons who practice or seek to practice aggressive water conservation.

Dated March 15, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ JOHN E. THORSON

John E. Thorson
Administrative Law Judge

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that I have by mail this day served a true copy of the original attached Administrative Law Judge's Ruling Following Public Participation Hearings on all parties of record in this proceeding or their attorneys of record. In addition, service was also performed by electronic mail.

Dated March 15, 2004, at San Francisco, California.

/s/ FANNIE SID

Fannie Sid

N O T I C E

Parties should notify the Process Office, Public Utilities Commission, 505 Van Ness Avenue, Room 2000, San Francisco, CA 94102, of any change of address to insure that they continue to receive documents. You must indicate the proceeding number on the service list on which your name appears.